

Malagasy language

Malagasy (/mələ ˈɡæsi/ ^[3] Malagasy pronunciation: [ˌmalaˈɡasˈj]) is an Austronesian language and the national language of Madagascar. Most people in Madagascar speak it as a first language as do some people of Malagasy descent elsewhere.

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Classification

The Malagasy language is the westernmost member of the Malayo-Polynesian branch of the Austronesian language family.^[4] Its distinctiveness from nearby African languages was already noted in 1708 by the Dutch scholar Adriaan Reland.^[5]

It is related to the Malayo-Polynesian languages of Indonesia, Malaysia, and the Philippines, and specifically to the East Barito languages spoken in Borneo (e.g. Ma'anyan), with apparent influence from early Old Malay. There appears to be a Bantu influence or substratum in Malagasy phonotactics (Dahl 1988).

Malagasy	
<i>malagasy</i>	
<div>Native to</div>	<div>Madagascar</div> <div>Comoros</div>
<div>Native speakers</div>	25 million (2015) ^[1]
<div>Language family</div>	<div>Austronesian<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Malayo-Polynesian<ul style="list-style-type: none">Barito<ul style="list-style-type: none">East Barito<ul style="list-style-type: none">Malagasy</div>
<div>Writing system</div>	Latin script (Malagasy alphabet) <div> <div>Malagasy</div> <div>Braille</div> </div>
Official status	
<div>Official language in</div>	 Madagascar
Language codes	
ISO 639-1	mg (https://www.loc.gov/standards/iso639-2/php/langcodes_name.php?iso_639_1=mg)
ISO 639-2	mlg (https://www.loc.gov/standards/iso639-2/php/langcodes_name.php?code_ID=297)
ISO 639-3	mlg – inclusive code <div> <div>Individual codes:</div> <div> <div>xmv – Antankarana</div> <div>bhr – Bara</div> <div>buc – Bushi</div> <div>msh – Masikoro</div> <div>bmm – Northern Betsimisaraka</div> <div>plt – Plateau Malagasy</div> <div>skg – Sakalava</div> <div>bzc – Southern Betsimisaraka</div> <div>tdx – Tandroy-Mafahaly</div> <div>txy – Tanosy</div> <div>tkg – Tesaka</div> <div>xmw – Tsimihety</div> </div> </div>
Glottolog	mal1537 (http://glottolog.org/resource/1anguoid/id/mal1537) ^[2]
Linguasphere	31-LDA-a

Decimal numbers	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
PAN , circa 4000 BC	*isa	*DuSa	*telu	*Sepat	*lima	*enem	*pitu	*walu	*Siwa	*puluq
Malagasy	iray/isa	roa	telo	efatra	dimy	enina	fito	valo	sivy	folo
Ma'anyan	isa	rueh	telo	epat	dime	enem	pitu	balu	su'ey	sapulu
Kadazan	iso	duvo	tohu	apat	himo	onom	tu'u	vahu	sizam	hopod
Tagalog	isá	dalawá	tatló	ápat	limá	ánim	pitó	waló	siyám	sampu
Ilocano	maysá	dua	talló	uppát	limá	inném	pitó	waló	siam	sangapúlo
Chamorro	maisa/hâcha	hugua	tulu	fatfat	lima	gunum	fiti	guålu	sigua	mãnot/fulu
Malay	satu	dua	tiga	empat	lima	enam	tujuh	lapan	sembilan	sepuluh
Javanese	siji	loro	telu	papat	limo	nem	pitu	wolu	songo	sepuluh
Tetum	ida	rua	tolu	haat	lima	neen	hitu	ualu	sia	sanulu
Fijian	dua	rua	tolu	vā	lima	ono	vitu	walu	ciwa	tini, -sagavulu
Tongan	taha	ua	tolu	fā	nima	ono	fitu	valu	hiva	-fulu
Samoan	tasi	lua	tolu	fa	lima	ono	fitu	valu	iva	sefulu



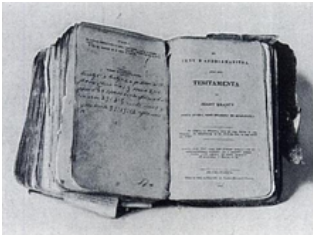
Play media
A woman speaking Malagasy

Etymology

Malagasy is the demonym of Madagascar from which it is taken to refer to the people of Madagascar in addition to their language.

History

Madagascar was first settled by Austronesian peoples from Maritime Southeast Asia from the Sunda Islands (Malay archipelago).^[6] As for their route, one possibility is that the Indonesian Austronesian came directly across the Indian Ocean from Java to Madagascar. It is likely that they went through the Maldives where evidence of old Indonesian boat design and fishing technology persists until the present.^[7] The migrations continued along the first millennium, as confirmed by linguistic researchers who showed the close relationship between the Malagasy language and Old Malay and Old Javanese languages of this period.^{[8][9]} The Malagasy language originated from Southeast Barito language, and Ma'anyan language is its closest relative, with numerous Malay and Javanese loanwords.^{[10][11]} It is known that Ma'anyan people were brought as labourer and slaves by Malay and Javanese people in their trading fleets, which reached Madagascar by ca. 50-500 AD.^{[12][13]} Far later, c. 1000, the original Austronesian settlers mixed with Bantus and Arabs, amongst others.^[14] There is evidence that the predecessors of the Malagasy dialects first arrived in the southern stretch of the east coast of Madagascar.^[15]



Malagasy Bible

Malagasy has a tradition of oratory arts and poetic histories and legends. The most well-known is the national epic, *Ibonia*, about a Malagasy folk hero of the same name.^[16]

Geographic distribution

Malagasy is the principal language spoken on the island of Madagascar. It is also spoken by Malagasy communities on neighboring Indian Ocean islands such as Réunion, Comoros and Mauritius. Expatriate Malagasy communities speaking the language also exist in Europe and North America, to a lesser extent, Belgium and Washington, DC in United States.

Legal status

The Merina dialect of Malagasy is considered the national language of Madagascar. It is one of two official languages alongside French in the 2010 constitution put in place the Fourth Republic. Previously, under the 2007 constitution, Malagasy was one of three official languages alongside French and English. Malagasy is the language of instruction in all public schools through grade five for all subjects, and remains the language of instruction through high school for the subjects of history and Malagasy language.

Dialects

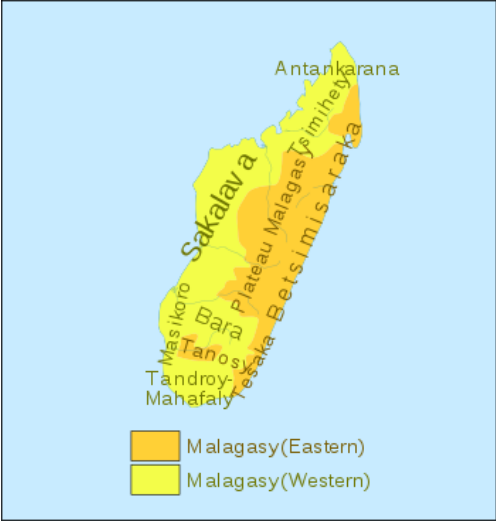
There are two principal dialects of Malagasy; Eastern (including Merina) and Western (including Sakalava), with the isogloss running down the spine of the island, the south being western, and the central plateau and much of the north (apart from the very tip) being eastern. *Ethnologue* encodes 12 variants of Malagasy as distinct languages. They have about a 70% (~2000 years) similarity in lexicon with the Merina dialect.

Eastern Malagasy

The Eastern dialects are:

- Northern Betsimisaraka Malagasy (1,270,000 speakers) – spoken by the Betsimisaraka on the northeastern coast of the island
- Southern Betsimisaraka Malagasy (2,000,000 speakers) – spoken by the Betsimisaraka in the North of the region Vatovavy Fito Vinany.

- Plateau Malagasy (10,893,000 speakers) – spoken in the centre of the island and includes southeastern dialects like Antemoro and Antefasy.^[17]
- Tanosy Malagasy (639,000 speakers) – spoken by the Antanosy people in the south of the island
- Tesaka Malagasy (1,130,000 speakers) – spoken by the Antaisaka people in the southeast of the island.^[18]



Map of the Malagasy dialects on Madagascar

Western Malagasy

The Western dialects are:

- Antankarana Malagasy (156,000 speakers) – spoken by the Antankarana in the northern tip of the island
- Bara Malagasy (724,000 speakers) – spoken by the Bara people in the south of the island
- Masikoro Malagasy (550,000 speakers) – spoken by the Masikoro in the southwest of the island
- Sakalava Malagasy (1,210,000 speakers) – spoken by the Sakalava people on the western coast of the island
- Tandroy-Mahafaly Malagasy (1,300,000 speakers) – spoken by the Antandroy and the Mahafaly people on the southern tip of the island
- Tsimihety Malagasy (1,615,000 speakers) – spoken by the Tsimihety people.^[18]

Additionally, Bushi (41,700 speakers) is spoken on the French overseas territory of Mayotte,^[19] which is part of the Comoro island chain situated northwest of Madagascar.

Region specific variations

The two main dialects of Malagasy are easily distinguished by several phonological features.

Sakalava lost final nasal consonants, whereas Merina added a voiceless [ə]:

- *tañan 'hand' → Sakalava ['taɲa], Merina ['tananə]

Final *t became -[tse] in the one but -[ʈʂə] in the other:

- *kulit 'skin' → Sakalava ['hulitse], Merina ['hudiʈʂə]

Sakalava retains ancestral *li and *ti, whereas in Merina these become [di] (as in *huditra* 'skin' above) and [tsi]:

- *putiq 'white' → Sakalava ['futi], Merina ['futsi]

However, these last changes started in Borneo before the Malagasy arrived in Madagascar.

Writing system

The language has a written literature going back presumably to the 15th century. When the French established Fort-Dauphin in the 17th century, they found an Arabico-Malagasy script in use, known as Sorabe ("large writings"). This Arabic Ajami script was mainly used for astrological and magical texts. The oldest known manuscript in that script is a short Malagasy-Dutch vocabulary from the early 17th century, which was first published in 1908 by Gabriel Ferrand^[20] though the script must have been introduced into the southeast area of Madagascar in the 15th century.^[14]



Sorabe Malagasy Arabic script

The first bilingual renderings of religious texts are those by Étienne de Flacourt,^[21] who also published the first dictionary of the language.^[22] Radama I, the first literate representative of the Merina monarchy, though extensively versed in the Arabico-Malagasy tradition,^[23] opted in 1823 for a Latin system derived by David Jones and invited the Protestant London Missionary Society to establish schools and churches. The first book to be printed in Malagasy using Latin characters was the Bible, which was translated into Malagasy in 1835 by British Protestant missionaries working in the highlands area of Madagascar.^[24]

The current Malagasy alphabet consists of 21 letters: *a, b, d, e, f, g, h, i, j, k, l, m, n, o, p, r, s, t, v, y, z*. The orthography maps rather straightforwardly to the phonemic inventory. The letters *i* and *y* both represent the /i/ sound (*y* is used word-finally, and *i* elsewhere), while *o* is pronounced /u/. The affricates /ʈʂ/ and /dʒ/ are written *tr* and *dr*, respectively, while /ts/ and /dz/ are written *ts* and *j*. The letter *h* is often silent. All other letters have essentially their IPA values. The letters *c, q, u, w* and *x* are all not used in native Malagasy words.

Mp and occasionally *nt* may begin a word, but they are pronounced /p, t/.

@ is used informally as a short form for *amin'ny*, which is a preposition followed by the definite form, meaning for instance *with the*.

Sorabe script with the Latin equivalents

ا	ب	د	هـ	ف	غ	ح	ج	ك	ل	م	ن	و	ز	ع	ط	ت	ف	ظ	ي	و	ي	يا	يو	ي								
a	b	d	e	f	g, ng	h	i, y	j	k	l	m	n	o	p	r	s	t	v	z	ñ	dr	tr	ts	mp	nt	ai	ao	oa	oi	ia, ea	io, eo	ie

Diacritics

Diacritics are not obligatory in standard Malagasy, except in the case where its absence leads to an ambiguity: *tanàna* ("city") must have the diacritic to discriminate itself from *tanana* ("hand"). They may however be used in the following ways:

- ◌̀ (grave accent) shows the stressed syllable in a word. It is frequently used for disambiguation. For instance in *tanàna* (town) and *tanana* (hand), where the word that is an exception to the usual pronunciation rules (*tanàna*) gets an accent. Using accent on the word that follows the pronunciation rules (*tànana*) is less common, mainly in dictionaries. (This is very similar to the usage of the grave accent in Italian.)
- ◌́ (acute accent) may be used in
 - very old dictionaries, along with grave accent
 - dialects such as Bara
 - French (*Tuléar*) and French-spelled (*Antsirabé*) names. Malagasy versions are *Toliara* or *Toliary* and *Antsirabe*.
- ◌̂ (circumflex) is used as follows:
 - ô shows that the letter is pronounced /o/ and not /u/, in Malagasified foreign words (*hôpitaly*) and dialects (*Tôlañaro*). In standard Malagasy, *ao* or *oa* (as in *mivoaka*) is used instead.
 - sometimes the single-letter words *a* and *e* are written *â* and *ê* but it does not change the pronunciation
- ◌̃ (diaeresis) is used with *ñ* in dialects for a velar nasal /ŋ/. Examples are place names such as *Tôlañaro*, *Antsirañana*, *Iharaña*, *Anantsoño*. This can be seen in maps from FTM, the national institute of geodesy and cartography.
- ◌̈ (tilde) is used in *ñ* sometimes, perhaps when the writer cannot produce an *ñ* (although *ng* is also used in such cases). In Ellis' Bara dialect dictionary, it is used for velar nasal /ŋ/ as well as palatal nasal /ɲ/.

Phonology

Vowels

	Front	Central	Back
<u>Close</u>	i, y /i/		o /u/
<u>Mid</u>	e /e/		ô, ao, oa /o/
<u>Open</u>		a /a/	

After a stressed syllable, as at the end of most words and in the final two syllables of some, /a, u, i/ are reduced to [ə, ʷ, ʲ]. (/i/ is spelled ⟨y⟩ in such cases, though in monosyllabic words like *ny* and *vy*, ⟨y⟩ is pronounced as a full [i].) Final /a/, and sometimes final syllables, are devoiced at the end of an utterance. /e/ and /o/ are never reduced or devoiced. The large amounts of reduction of vowels and their effect on neighbouring consonants give Malagasy a phonological quality not unlike that of Portuguese.

/o/ is marginal in Merina dialect, found in interjections and loan words, though it is also found in place names from other dialectical areas. /ai, au/ are diphthongs [aɪ̯, aʊ̯] in careful speech, [e, o] or [ɛ, ɔ] in more casual speech. /ai/, whichever way it is pronounced, affects following /k, g/ as /i/ does.

Consonants

		Bilabial	Labiodental	Dental	Alveolar	Retroflex	Velar	Glottal
Nasal		m ⟨m⟩			n ⟨n⟩		ŋ ⟨ñ⟩	
Plosive or affricate	voiceless	p ⟨p⟩		t ⟨t⟩	ts ⟨ts⟩	tʰ ⟨tr⟩	k ⟨k⟩	
	voiceless prenasalized	mp ⟨mp⟩		nt ⟨nt⟩	nts ⟨nts⟩	ɳtʰ ⟨ntr⟩	ŋk ⟨nk⟩	
	voiced	b ⟨b⟩		d ⟨d⟩	dz ⟨j⟩	dʰ ⟨dr⟩	g ⟨g⟩	
	voiced prenasalized	mb ⟨mb⟩		nd ⟨nd⟩	ndz ⟨nj⟩	ɳdʰ ⟨ndr⟩	ŋg ⟨ng⟩	
Fricative	voiceless		f ⟨f⟩		s ⟨s⟩			h ⟨h⟩
	voiced		v ⟨v⟩		z ⟨z⟩			
Lateral					l ⟨l⟩			
Trill					r ⟨r⟩			

The alveolars /s ts z dz l/ are slightly palatalized. /ts, dz, s, z/ vary between [ts, dz, s, z] and [tʃ, dʒ, ʃ, ʒ], and are especially likely to be the latter when followed by unstressed /i/: Thus French *malgache* [malɡaʃ] 'Malagasy'. The velars /k ɡ ŋk ŋɡ h/ are palatalized after /i/ (e.g. *alika* /alikʲa/ 'dog'). /h/ is frequently elided in casual speech.

The reported postalveolar trilled affricates /tʰ ɳtʰ dʰ ɳdʰ/ are sometimes simple stops, [t ɳt d ɳd], but they often have a rhotic release, [tʰ̤ ɳtʰ̤ dʰ̤ ɳdʰ̤]. It is not clear if they are actually trilled, or are simply non-sibilant affricates [tʃ̤ ɳtʃ̤ dʒ̤ ɳdʒ̤]. However, in another Austronesian language with a claimed trilled affricate, Fijian, trilling occurs but is rare, and the primary distinguishing feature is that it is postalveolar.^[25] The Malagasy sounds are frequently transcribed [tʃ ɳtʃ dʒ ɳdʒ], and that is the convention used in this article.

In reduplication, compounding, possessive and verbal constructions, and after nasals, fricatives and liquids ('spirants') become stops, as follows:

Malagasy sandhi			
voiced		voiceless	
spirant	stop	spirant	stop
v	b	f	p
l	d		
z	dz	s	ts
r	dʰ (dz)		
		h	k

Stress

Words are generally accented on the penultimate syllable, unless the word ends in *ka*, *tra* and often *na*, in which case they are stressed on the antepenultimate syllable. In many dialects, unstressed vowels (except /e/) are devoiced, and in some cases almost completely elided; thus *f̣anorona* is pronounced [f̥əˈnurnə̥].

Grammar

Word order

Malagasy has a verb–object–subject (VOS) word order:

Mamaky boky ny mpianatra
(reads book the student)
"The student reads the book"

Nividy ronono ho an'ny zaza ny vehivavy
(bought milk for the child the woman)
"The woman bought milk for the child"

Within phrases, Malagasy order is typical of head-initial languages: Malagasy has prepositions rather than postpositions (*ho an'ny zaza* "for the child"). Determiners precede the noun, while quantifiers, modifying adjective phrases, and relative clauses follow the noun (*ny boky* "the book(s)", *ny boky mena* "the red book(s)", *ny boky rehetra* "all the books", *ny boky novakin'ny mpianatra* "the book(s) read by the student(s)").

Somewhat unusually, demonstrative determiners are repeated both before and after the noun *ity boky ity* "this book" (lit. "this book this").

Verbs

Verbs have syntactically three productive "voice" forms according to the thematic role they play in the sentence: the basic "agent focus" forms of the majority of Malagasy verbs, the derived "patient focus" forms used in "passive" constructions, and the derived "goal focus" forms used in constructions with focus on instrumentality. Thus

- (1) *Manasa ny tanako amin'ny savony aho.* ("I am washing my hands with soap.")
- (2) *Sasako amin'ny savony ny tanako.* ("My hands are washed with soap by me.")
- (3) *Anasako ny tanako ny savony.* ("It is with soap that my hands are washed by me.")

all mean "I wash my hands with soap" though focus is determined in each case by the sentence initial verb form and the sentence final (noun) argument: *manasa* "wash" and *aho* "I" in (1), *sasako* "wash" and *ny tanako* "my hands" in (2), *anasako* "wash" and *ny savony* "soap" in (3). There is no equivalent to the English preposition *with* in (3).

Verbs inflect for past, present, and future tense, where tense is marked by prefixes (e.g. *mividy* "buy", *nividy* "bought", *hividy* "will buy").

Nouns and pronouns

Malagasy has no grammatical gender, and nouns do not inflect for number. However, pronouns and demonstratives have distinct singular and plural forms (cf. *io boky io* "that book", *ireto boky ireto* "these books").

There is a complex series of personal and demonstrative pronouns, depending on the speaker's familiarity and closeness to the referent.

Deixis

Malagasy has a complex system of deixis (these, those, here, there, etc.), with seven degrees of distance as well as evidentiality across all seven. The evidential dimension is prototypically visible vs. non-visible referents; however, the non-visible forms may be used for visible referents which are only vaguely identified or have unclear boundaries, whereas the visible forms are used for non-visible referents when these are topical to the conversation.^[26]

Malagasy deixis								
		PROX		MED		DIST		
Adverbs (here, there)	NVIS	atỳ	àto	ào	àtsy	àny	aròà*	arỳ
	VIS	etỳ	èto	èo	ètsy	èny	eròà	erỳ
Pronouns (this, that) (these, those)	NVIS	izatỳ*	izàto*	izào	izàtsy*	izàny	izaròà*	izary*
	VIS	itỳ	ìto	ìo	ìtsy	ìny	iròà*	irỳ
	VIS.PL	irèto		irèo	irètsy	irèny	ireròà*	irerỳ*

Notes:

- Diacritics in deixis are not mandatory in Malagasy.
- Deixis marked by a * are rarely used.

Vocabulary

Malagasy shares much of its basic vocabulary with the Ma'anyan language, a language from the region of the Barito River in southern Borneo. The Malagasy language also includes some borrowings from Arabic and Bantu languages (especially the Sabaki branch, from which most notably Swahili derives), and more recently from French and English.

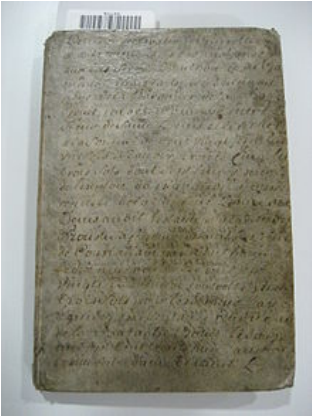
The following samples are of the Merina dialect or Standard Malagasy, which is spoken in the capital of Madagascar and in the central highlands or "plateau", home of the Merina people.^{[27][28]} It is generally understood throughout the island.

English	Malagasy	IPA
English	<i>Anglisy</i>	ãŋ 'gliʃ
Yes	<i>Eny</i>	' ʝenj
No	<i>Tsia</i> , (before a verb) <i>Tsy</i>	tsi, ts ʝ
Hello! / How are you?	<i>Manao ahoana!</i>	mana ' wɔnə/mana ' onə
Hello! (rural areas)	<i>Salama!</i>	sa ' lamə
I'm fine, thank you.	<i>Tsara fa misaotra.</i>	' tsarə fa m ʝ ' so : tʃə
Goodbye!	<i>Veloma!</i>	ve ' lumə
Please	<i>Azafady</i>	aza ' fad ʝ
Thank you	<i>Misaotra</i>	m ʝ ' so : tʃa
You're welcome	<i>Tsisy fisaorana.</i>	ts ʝ ' mis ʝ f ʝ ' so : ranə
Excuse me	<i>Azafady</i> (with arm and hand pointing to the ground)	aza ' fad ʝ
Sorry	<i>Miala tsiny</i>	mjala ' tsin ʝ
Who?	<i>Iza?</i>	' i : za/ ' iza
What?	<i>Inona?</i>	in : a
When?	<i>Rahoviana?</i> , (past tense) <i>Oviana</i>	ro : ' vinə/raw ' vinə
Where?	<i>Aiza?</i> , (past tense) <i>Taiza</i>	ajzə
Why?	<i>Fa maninona?</i>	fa manin : ə
How?	<i>Ahoana?</i>	a ' wɔnə
How many?	<i>Firy?</i>	' fir ʝ
How much?	<i>Ohatrinona?</i>	wɔ ' tʃin : ə
What's your name?	<i>Iza ny anaranao?</i>	iza njanara ' naw
For	<i>Ho an'ny / Ho an'i</i>	wan : i
Because	<i>Satria</i>	sa ' tʃi
I don't understand.	<i>Tsy mazava, Tsy azoko.</i>	ts ʝ mazavə
Yes, I understand.	<i>Eny, mazava, Eny, azoko</i>	ʝenj mazavə
Help!	<i>Vonjeo!</i>	vun ' dzew
Go away!	<i>Mandehana!</i>	man di anə
Can you help me please?	<i>Afaka manampy ahy ve ianao azafady?</i>	afaka manap ʝ a ve enaw azafad ʝ
Where are the toilets?	<i>Aiza ny efitrano fivoahana?</i> , <i>Aiza ny V.C.?</i> , <i>Aiza ny toilet?</i>	ajza njeftʃan w fi ' vwa : nə
Do you speak English?	<i>Mahay teny anglisy ve ianao?</i>	mi ' ten ʝ ãŋ ' gliʃ ve e ' naw
I do not speak Malagasy.	<i>Tsy mahay teny malagasy aho.</i>	ts ʝ maaj ten ʝ mala ' gas ʝ a
I do not speak French.	<i>Tsy mahay teny frantsay aho.</i>	ts ʝ maaj ten ʝ frantsaj a
I am thirsty.	<i>Mangetaheta aho.</i>	mangeta ' eta
I am hungry.	<i>Noana aho.</i>	no : na
I am sick.	<i>Marary aho.</i>	
I am tired.	<i>Vizaka aho, Reraka aho</i>	' vizaka, rerakau
I need to pee.	<i>Poritra aho, Ny olombelona tsy akoho</i>	purtʃa
I would like to go to Antsirabe.	<i>Te hankany Antsirabe aho.</i>	tiku ankan ʝ anjantsirabe
That's expensive!	<i>Lafo be izany!</i>	laf w ' be zan ʝ
I'm hungry for some rice.	<i>Noana vary aho.</i>	no : na varja
What can I do for you?	<i>Inona no azoko atao ho anao?</i>	in : a ɲaz w kwata w wanaw
I like...	<i>Tiako...</i>	tik w
I love you.	<i>Tiako ianao.</i>	tikwena w
Numbers		
one	<i>isa/iray</i>	isə
two	<i>roa</i>	ru
three	<i>telo</i>	tel w

four	<i>efatra</i>	 ' efatʂə
five	<i>dimy</i>	 ' dimʝ
six	<i>enina</i>	 enː
seven	<i>fito</i>	 fitʷ
eight	<i>valo</i>	 valʷ
nine	<i>sivy</i>	 sivʝ
ten	<i>folo</i>	 fulʷ
eleven	<i>iraika ambin'ny folo</i>	 rajkʝambefulʷ
twelve	<i>roa ambin'ny folo</i>	 rumbefulʷ
twenty	<i>roapolo</i>	 ropulʷ
thirty	<i>telopolo</i>	 telopulʷ
forty	<i>efapolo</i>	 efapulʷ
fifty	<i>dimampolo</i>	 dimapulʷ
sixty	<i>enim-polo</i>	 empulʷ
seventy	<i>fitopolo</i>	 fitupulʷ
eighty	<i>valopolo</i>	 valupulʷ
ninety	<i>sivifolo</i>	 sivfulʷ
one hundred	<i>zato</i>	 zatʷ
two hundred	<i>roan-jato</i>	 rondzatʷ
one thousand	<i>arivo</i>	 arivʷ
ten thousand	<i>iray alina</i>	 rajal
one hundred thousand	<i>iray hetsy</i>	 rajetsʝ
one million	<i>iray tapitrisa</i>	 rajtaptʂisə
one billion	<i>iray lavitrisa</i>	 rajlavtʂisə
3,568,942	<i>roa amby efapolo sy sivin-jato sy valo arivo sy enina alina sy dimy hetsy sy telo tapitrisa</i>	 rumbefapulʷ sʝsivdzatʷ sʝvalorivʷ sʝenːal sʝdimjetsʝ sʝtelutapitʂisə

Lexicography

The first dictionary of the language is Étienne de Flacourt's *Dictionnaire de la langue de Madagascar* published in 1658 though earlier glossaries written in Arabico-Malagasy script exist. A later *Vocabulaire Anglais-Malagasy* was published in 1729. An 892-page Malagasy–English dictionary was published by James Richardson of the *London Missionary Society* in 1885, available as a reprint; however, this dictionary includes archaic terminology and definitions. Whereas later works have been of lesser size, several have been updated to reflect the evolution and progress of the language, including a more modern, bilingual frequency dictionary based on a corpus of over 5 million Malagasy words.^[27]



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See also

- Jean-Joseph Rabearivelo
- Languages of Madagascar

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External links

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- Large audio database of Malagasy words with recorded pronunciation (<http://dominicweb.eu/en/malagasy/>)
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- [Malagasy–French dictionary \(http://www.freelang.com/enligne/malgache.php\)](http://www.freelang.com/enligne/malgache.php)
- [Malagasy Swadesh list of basic vocabulary words \(https://en.wiktionary.org/wiki/Appendix:Malagasy_Swadesh_list\)](https://en.wiktionary.org/wiki/Appendix:Malagasy_Swadesh_list) (from Wiktionary's Swadesh-list appendix (https://en.wiktionary.org/wiki/Appendix:Swadesh_lists))
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- [La Bible Malgache en texte intégral \(http://www.madabibliq.org/\)](http://www.madabibliq.org/) – the complete text of the 1865 Malagasy Bible
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